MONDAY, MAY 11TH, 1857.

JAMES HENTHORN TODD, D. D., PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

JAMES ANTHONY LAWSON, Q.C., was elected a Member of the Academy.

Professor Hennessy read a paper on the Distribution of Heat over the island of Great Britain.

The President read the following note:—

"Sir William Rowan Hamilton wished to hand in a memorandum of the following 'General Expression by Quaternions, for Cones of the Third Order,' which he hoped to be allowed to develope and illustrate at some subsequent meeting of the Academy during the present Session. The equation in question is,

$$S q \rho q' \rho q'' \rho = 0; \qquad \text{(A)}$$

where ρ is the variable vector (or side) of the cone of the third order, drawn from its vertex as the origin; while q, q', q'', are three arbitrary but constant quaternions, which may be regarded as fixed parameters of the surface."

The following Memorial to Lord Palmerston was read:—

"*To the Right Honourable Lord Palmerston, &c., &c.*

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

"We, the President and Members of the Royal Irish Academy, beg leave to address you on a subject of great scientific interest and importance.

"We have learned with much regret that the Lords of the Admiralty have decided upon abandoning all further